



## **Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks**

Region 2 Headquarters  
3201 Spurgin Road  
Missoula, MT 59804  
Phone 406-542-5500  
August 19, 2010

Dear Interested Citizen:

Enclosed you will find for your review the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for a Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposal to conduct forest restoration treatments on 354 acres within the Blackfoot Clearwater Wildlife Management Area's Ovando Mountain Unit north of Ovando in Powell County. The purpose is to restore and improve ungulate winter range and reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire to the WMA and adjacent forested ownerships. Treatments would remove conifers encroaching on aspen galleries, thin shade-tolerant understories of historically open and fire-adapted stands, and remove diseased, dead and dying late-seral lodgepole pine to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire and encourage grass and woody browse recruitment on important ungulate winter range.

This EA may also be obtained by mail from Region 2 FWP, 3201 Spurgin Rd., Missoula 59804; by phoning 406-542-5500; by emailing [fwprg22@mt.gov](mailto:fwprg22@mt.gov); or by viewing FWP's Internet website <http://fwp.mt.gov> ("Recent Public Notices").

Comments should be directed by: mail to Jay Kolbe, FWP, PO Box 1228, Seeley Lake, MT 59868; phone to 406-677-0162; or email to [jkolbe@mt.gov](mailto:jkolbe@mt.gov). Comments must be received by FWP no later than 5:00 p.m. on September 2, 2010.

As part of the decision making process under MEPA, I expect to issue the Decision Notice for this EA very soon after the end of the comment period.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mack Long". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mack" and last name "Long" clearly distinguishable.

Mack Long  
Regional Supervisor

ML/sr